

App. No. 10/659,851
Page 7

REMARKS

Amendments to the claims

Claims 1-11, 13, and 16-22 are in this application. Claim 13 has been canceled without prejudice. The Applicant reserves the right to reintroduce the canceled claims later during prosecution of the present application or in continuation and/or divisional applications based on the present one. No new matter has been added.

Claim objections

In the Action, the Examiner objects to claim 13. The Applicant has canceled claim 13, thus rendering the objection of the Examiner moot.

Claim rejections – 35 USC § 103

In the Action, the Examiner rejects claim 13 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,854,828 to Kocis in further view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,269,364 to Kennedy. Without going into the merits of the Examiner's rejection, the Applicant notes that claim 13 has been canceled, thus rendering the objection of the Examiner moot.

Allowability of claims 1-11 and 16-22

In the Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 1-11 and 16-22 are allowable over the prior art of record. The Applicant notes that claim 22 is an independent claim and does not depend on claim 16. The Applicant acknowledges with gratitude the indication of allowability of the Examiner.

App. No. 10/659,851
Page 8

Information Disclosure Statement

The attention of the Examiner is respectfully directed to an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed by the Applicant, under separate cover, on the same date of the present response.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being is
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9306 on

Respectfully submitted,

May 17, 2005
(Date of Deposit)

Susan Papp
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Signature

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